66th MPs help Iraqi Police sustain and progress

Story and photo by Pfc. Erik LeDrew, 1AD PAO

DIWANIYA, Iraq – On any given day, the Military Police Soldiers of 3rd Platoon, 66th Military Police Company, attached to the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, visit the Iraqi Police (IP) stations in the Diwaniya area and work with the police officers.

This is done to ensure that when the MPs leave, they can feel confident that the Iraqi Police force will be ready.

The MPs purpose for visiting the IP stations is to assess the IPs' patrol plans and use of personnel, and determine the stations' resource needs.

The 3rd Platoon MPs visit three or four of the 15 IP stations in Diwaniya daily.

Recently, they visited a police station in the Jazaar district, the Diwaniya headquarters of the Emergency Services Unit – a special Iraqi Police unit that responds to major incidents around the city, and the Diwaniya Police Headquarters.

The MPs' goal in doing these assessments, which have been going on for about a month, is to help the Iraqi Police obtain needed resources such as radios, vehicles, weapons, and building space.

"The IPs, for the most part, want to do a good job but they're hurting on supplies," said Sgt. Jason Picanco, a 3rd Platoon squad leader.



1st Lt. Thomas Mott, platoon leader, 3rd Platoon, 66th MP Co., coordinates joint patrols between Iraqi Police and American forces with the Deputy Chief of Iraqi Police for the Qadasiyah Province Brig. Gen. Hamid Abed Zaid, at the Diwaniya Iraqi Police Headquarters.

"These guys are just like any new police force," added Sgt. Michael Chikar, also a squad leader with 3rd Platoon. "They've got their problems, but at the same time they have wonderful potential."

In addition to making the rounds and visiting the IP stations, the MPs have been meeting with the Deputy Chief of Iraqi Police for the Qadasiyah Province, Brig. Gen. Hamid Abed Zaid.

According to 1st Lt. Thomas Mott, 3rd Platoon leader, the purpose for visiting Zaid was to coordinate joint patrols between American units and Iraqi Police units in order to give them some on-the-job training and supervision.

Although they have been

working with the Diwaniya police for a few weeks, the MPs have worked with IPs in other cities such as Karbala and Al Hillah.

It will be some time before they can move on from Diwaniya, but the MPs are optimistic about the progress the Iraqi Police here have already made, said Mott.

"We've been seeing vast improvements on an almost daily basis," said Chikar. "They're beginning to understand their jobs better and what they're expected to do."

By the time 3rd Platoon leaves Diwaniya, they will see an effective Iraqi Police force patrolling the streets.

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Quote of the Day ...

"Power is not revealed by striking hard or often, but by striking true."

-- Honoré de Balzac (1799-1850), French writer



Soldiers from the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment watch over Iraqi workers in Al Kut. The coalition has given \$99,000 for local contractors and 150 local workers to renovate an abandoned amusement park in that Iraqi city. When reopened, the park will be free to the public. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Katherine M Roth)

Oddly Enough...

Firefighters Return to Find Station on Fire

DALLAS (Reuters) - Firefighters in a Dallas suburb returned to their station to find a fire started by potatoes they left cooking on a stove, officials said on Friday.

The fire caused about \$125,000 in damages to the station in Lancaster, a southern suburb of Dallas, said Fire Marshal Ladis Barr.

The blaze was extinguished late Thursday night with the help of firefighters from other stations. It damaged the kitchen and living area.

Fire officials also wanted to remind the public to make sure not to leave food cooking before stepping out.

Chaplain's Thought for the Day...

Look before you Leap

Abraham Lincoln, on hearing a friend speak angrily of someone, advised him to sit down and put all his abuse into a letter. "It will do you good", he said. When the letter was written, the man read it to President Lincoln, who commended him heartily for its severity. Pleased, the man asked Lincoln, "Would you advise me to send it?". "Send it?" replied Lincoln, 'Oh, I wouldn't send it. I sometimes write a letter like that – it does me good, but I never send it." Ambrose Bierce reflected the same wisdom when he said "Speak when you are angry and you will make the best speech you will ever regret." In marriage, or for that matter in any relationship, words spoken in anger and haste often result in emotional wounds that can take years to heal. When angry, "Look before you leap", and consider the impact of your words before they are spoken. You might decide, like President Lincoln, "just not to send that letter."

Today in History...

(Historynet.com)

1652 Massachusetts declares itself an independent commonwealth.

1767 The British parliament passes the Townshend Revenue Act, levying taxes on America.

1862 Union forces, falling back from Richmond, fight at the Battle of Savage's Station.

1903 The British government officially protests Belgian atrocities in the Congo.

1917 The Ukraine proclaims independence from Russia.

1925 An earthquake ravages Santa Barbara, California.

1926 Fascists in Rome add an hour to the work day in an economic efficiency measure.

1938 Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado, and Olympic National Park, Washington, are founded.

1950 President Harry S. Truman authorizes a sea blockade of Korea.

1951 The United States invites the Soviet Union to the Korean peace talks on a ship in Wonson Harbor.

1955 The Soviet Union sends tanks to Pozan, Poland, to put down anti-Communist demonstrations.

1966 The U.S. Air Force bombs fuel storage facilities near Hanoi, North Vietnam.

1967 Israel removes barricades, reunifying Jerusalem.

1970 U.S. troops pull out of Cambodia.

1982 Israel invades Lebanon.



The following AAFES facilities located on BIAP will close and remain closed for business as of the dates listed below.

BIAP(W) PX (Dogwood)

1 JULY 2004.

Barber Shop

BIAP(E) AAFES Concessions:
Alterations Shop Gift Shop

1 JULY 2004.

Bazaar

BIAP(E) AAFES PX and Burger King 5 JULY 2004.

The ADACG PX will remain open throughout the 1st Armored Division Redeployment.

OLD IRONSIDES

Reenlistment Bonus Incentives Draw to a Close, Be Sure to Get All That's Coming to You!

1. DEPLOYED REUP BONUS ENDS WHEN SOLDIER DEPARTS THEATER

Reenlistment bonuses designated for soldiers assigned or attached to units in Afghanistan, Kuwait, or Iraq are only eligible to receive that specific location bonuses if they reenlist while in one of those locations. Once the soldier departs theater, they are no longer eligible for that specific tax free lump sum bonus designated for those areas.

2. DEADLINE NEARS FOR RETROACTIVE REUP BONUS

Soldiers between the ranks of specialist and staff sergeant, with 17 months to 10 years active service, who reenlisted between 18 March 2003 through September 18 2003, while assigned or attached to units deployed in Iraq, Kuwait, or Afghanistan may be eligible for a lump sum bonuses up to \$5000. Soldiers have until 30 June 2004 to contact their career counselor to see if they are eligible and to request the lump sum payment.



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n.net T	V SCHEDULES: TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2004	I			s of: Monday, June 28, 2004 7:4
ne	SPORTS.	ATI ANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS
	SPORTSCENTER (NN)				HEADLINE NEWS (NN)
		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD (NN)			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS (NN)
COI	LLEGE BASEBALL (NN) - COLLEGE WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP GM 3 (IF): TEXAS VS CAL STATE FULLERTON	THE HOT LIST (NN)	THE WILD THORNBERRIES (TVY): -APRIL FOOL'S DAY	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT (NN)
		WIMBLEDON TENNIS TOURNAMENT (NN) - TODAY AT WIMBLEDON - ROUND OF 16	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - SANDY, SPONGEBOB & THE WORM / SQUID ON STRIKE		CBS EVENING NEWS (NN)
			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - TREE HOUSE OF HORRORS V	SAGWA	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN (N
			HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - FONZIE'S GETTING MARRIED	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):	
			ED (TVPG): - NEW SCHOOL	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	HANNITY & COLMES (NN)
	MLB (NN) - TEXAS RANGERS @ SEATTLE MARINERS	ESPNEWS (NN)	ER (TVPG): -TELL ME WHERE IT HURTS	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):	THE NEWSHOUR (NN)
		ESPNEWS (NN)			
		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	THE RESIDENTS (TV14): - CODE BLUE	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS (NN)	BET NIGHTLY NEWS (NN)
		ESPNEWS		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT (NN)
		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	THE SUN ALSO RISES	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD (NN)	LARRY KING LIVE (NN)
				GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):	. , ,
		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)		202	
	BALLROOM BOXING (NN)	SESAME STREET			NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN (NN)
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	SPORTSCENTER (NN)	SAGWA		ARTHUR (TVY): - ARTHURS FAMILY FEUD/ MUFFY GETS MATURE	PAULA ZAHN NOW (NN)
		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES (TVPG):	DISNEY'S DOUG (TVY): - NIGHT OF THE LIVING DOUGS	
	NHRA AUTO RACING (NN) - SEARS CRAFTSMAN NATIONALS: FINAL ROUND	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	THE WILD THORNBERRIES (TVY): -APRIL FOOL'S DAY	LIZZIE MCGUIRE (TVG): - OBSESSION	NIGHTLINE (NN)
			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - SANDY, SPONGEBOB & THE WORM/SQUID ON STRIKE	ALL THAT!	NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS (NN)
		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):			
			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): -TREE HOUSE OF HORRORS V	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS (NN
			HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - FONZIE'S GETTING MARRIED	HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	
		GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):			
	SPORTSCENTER (NN)		ED (TVPG): - NEW SCHOOL	ESPNEWS	CNN DAYBREAK (NN)
		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):			
				PACIFIC REPORT (NN)	
	MLB (NN) - BALTIMORE ORIOLES @ KANSAS CITY ROYALS	HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	ER (TVPG): - TELL ME WHERE IT HURTS	7TH HEAVEN (TVPG): - WHEN BAD CONVERSATIONS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE	THE O'REILLY FACTOR (NN)
		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	` '	` '	, ,
		TODAY (NN)	THE RESIDENTS (TV14): - CODE BLUE	AUSTIN POWERS: GOLDMEMBER	GOOD MORNING AMERICA (NN)
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	SPORTSCENTER (NN)	ARTHUR (TVY): -ARTHUR'S FAMILY FEUD/ MUFFY GETS MATURE	THE SON ALSO MISES	PACIFIC REPORT (NN)	HEADLINE NEWS (NN)
	SPORTSCENTER (NN)				
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	WIMBLEDON TENNIS TOURNAMENT (NN) - WAKE UP TO WIMBLEDON	LIZZIE MCGUIRE (TVG): - OBSESSION	EDEDA A ROEDER LE TURBUNE (TURBUNE)	THE LATE CHOICE WITH DOOR	THE EARLY SHOW (NN)
		ALL THAT!	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES (TVPG):	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):	
	SPORTSCENTER (NN)	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	THE WILD THORNBERRIES (TVY): - APRIL FOOL'S DAY		
		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - SANDY, SPONGEBOB & THE WORM/SQUID ON STRIKE	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD (NN)	
	WIMBLEDON TENNIS TOURNAMENT (NN) - WOMEN'S QUARTERFINALS	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - TREE HOUSE OF HORRORS V	102 DALMATIONS	FOX NEWS LIVE (NN)
		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - FONZIE'S GETTING MARRIED		
		7TH HEAVEN (TVPG): - WHEN BAD CONVERSATIONS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE	ED (TVPG): - NEW SCHOOL		FOX NEWS LIVE (NN)
		AUSTIN POWERS: GOLDMEMBER	ER (TVPG): -TELL ME WHERE IT HURTS	DEEP IMPACT	FOX NEWS LIVE (NN)
			THE RESIDENTS (TV14): - CODE BLUE		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)
					INSIDE POLITICS (NN)
	THE HOT LIST (NN)	HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	THE SUN ALSO RISES	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST	` '
		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS (NN)
	THE HOT LIST (NN)				
	THE HOT LIST (NN) AROUND THE HORN (NN)			TODAY (NN)	LESTER HOLT LIVE (NN)